



# LARC



Volume 52, Number 03

March 2012

## President's Message

**HAMFEST TIME!** On the weekend of Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> the **52<sup>nd</sup> Annual AARA Hamfest** in Rayne, Louisiana will take place. I think this will be one to remember, so come out and be a part of the fun. Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP (Hamfest Assistant Chairperson) has really went to the extreme contacting vendors from all over to join our event or just help out by donating prizes and handouts. I would like to ask all AARA members to help pitch in and assist our visitors and vendors in any way possible.

**Remember:** Our March General Meeting will not be on March 1<sup>st</sup> which is the first Thursday of the month but will be on Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 PM, the weekend after the AARA Hamfest. Also, **NO VE TESTING At This Meeting. VE Testing took place at the Hamfest!** This will be our "Hamfest Banquet", every one is asked to bring a covered dish, the club will furnish the main entrée and drinks. A hamfest report will be given, new officers installed, and the annual drawing for the HT will go to the lucky club member who has attended the meetings during the last year. Some other things will probably be brought up at the meeting unknown to me at the present time.

I would also like to take time to express my "THANKS" to all that choose to pick me to be the AARA Club President for my second term. I ask that you continue to support the new and old officers as you have done in the past, I think we rank as one of the best in the Louisiana Section.

Karl Fontenot, Chief Engineer of KRVS radio, should have all the construction at the 147.040 repeater site completed. I think the next project after the hamfest is to start the move to get the W5EXI repeater on the air with EchoLink up and running. Charlie KI5XP has a new computer to donate to the cause.

One of the things I normally do after our hamfest is get a updated member roster and move those who have not paid their dues from the "Member" to the "Non-Member" address book. When you join or re-new your AARA membership, I would suggest that you put your birthday and current e-mail address on the application.

**LOOKING FORWARD TO SEE EVERYONE AT THE AARA HAMFEST!**

Herman Campbell KN5GRK  
AARA President

**Time Change - We go  
to Daylight Savings Time  
on  
Sunday March 11,**

**PLEASE RENEW  
YOUR  
2012 - 2013  
AARA CLUB  
MEMBERSHIP**

Check out the ARRL Louisiana Section Web Page at:  
<http://www.laarrrl.org>

## AARA 52<sup>nd</sup> Hamfest

**Rayne, Louisiana**

**March 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

ARRL Louisiana State Convention

### Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>

Doors Open 1700 - 2000  
Crawfish Boil 1800 - 1900  
Fais-Do-Do 1900 - 2000

### Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

Dealer & Swap Table Setup - 0700  
RV Registration 0700  
Registration Open 0700  
Doors Open 0800 -1400  
Ladies Bingo 0830  
ARRL VE Testing 0845  
DXCC, WAS, VUCC Card  
Checking 0830  
Fox Hunt 1100  
Grand Prize Drawing 1300  
Hamfest Closes 1400

### Forums:

AMSAT 0900 - 1000  
Louisiana Contest Club 1000 -  
1100

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP (Assistant Hamfest Chairman), and Rick Breaux N5RLM (Hamfest Table Chairman) would like to inform everyone, that we have a **SOLD-OUT** hamfest in regards to tables, in this case, anyone wanting to set up and "Tailgate" or "Junk-in-the-Trunk" from your vehicle, feel free to do so.....**NO CHARGE!** Way to go! This hamfest is gearing up to be one of the best in recent years. Thanks to all the hard work of the AARA members.

**See Page 3 for more information.**

Check out our websites for more hamfest information at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>  
<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### BANQUET MEETING

Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM  
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.  
Scott, LA

### HAMFEST SCHEDULE

**AARA 52<sup>nd</sup> Hamfest**  
March 9 & 10, 2012

**2012 NEW ORLEANS  
HAMFEST**  
March 24, 2012

### Local 2-Meter Nets

#### Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

#### Monday

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 Lafayette, LA

#### Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

#### Friday

HEAL Net 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Only 1:00

### AARA OFFICERS 2011-2012

**President - Herman Campbell  
KN5GRK**

kn5grk@lusfiber.net

**Vice Pres. - Archie Hill W5AG**

**Secretary - Sandy Leblanc KE5KJF**

**Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS**

#### BOARD MEMBERS

**Irma Bookter - KE5UPK**

**Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP**

**Nick Romero - KE5MWX**

**Abbigail Wilson - KF5BEW**

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

**Herman Campbell KN5GRK**

#### QSL MANAGER

**Roland Guidry - NA5Q**

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

**Galen Wilson - KF5BET**

**337-298-3804 - galenw@cox.net**

The **LARC** is published monthly by  
the:

### Acadiana Amateur Radio Association

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of  
each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Red Cross Building  
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

## SkyWarn Training Class Report



On Thursday evening, February 9<sup>th</sup>, a SkyWarn Class was held at the Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat Street, Scott, LA at 6:30 pm. The guest speaker was Roger Erickson KD5BUI of the Lake Charles National Weather Service.

Ed Roy WA5TNK, Lafayette Parish EC, made arrangements with Roger about a month ago to set up this class. Ed ad-

ressed the group by explaining how important ham radio operators are to the NWS by being able to give "real time eyeball visual reporting" of the weather conditions in their areas. This cannot be done by doppler radar and weather balloons.



Ed Roy

Ed then introduced Roger to the group, and Roger proceeded from that point. Roger presented some handouts to class members, one was a "SkyWarn Cheat Sheet" which explained how to determine hail size and wind speed when reporting to the NWS.

Roger had a nice slide presentation and video clips of different weather events which were pretty impressive. He also explained how different NWS stations from all over the US pool their findings and provide our local news media their weather information. Roger told our spotters the important



information we can provide to the Lake Charles NWS are: Rain, flooding, hail, wind speed, directions, tornados, and any damage to property or persons.

About half way into the session, we took a short break for sandwiches, chips, cookies, etc., which were provided by the AARA.

Roger then proceeded with his presentation and concluded by a "question and answer session" and there were quite many.

There were sixteen persons at the meeting and I am sure we all learned some things that will help us and the NWS in our weather spotting.

Ed asked that all SkyWarn members to be able to step in and bring up the SkyWarn Emergency Net on the 145.370 repeater and be the Net Control Station, take check-ins and log the times and reports from spotters and to be able to activate the "Alert Message" on the 146.82 machine to tell operators to QSY to the 145.37 machine.

Those in attendance at the SkyWarn Class were: Roger Erickson KD5BUI, Ed Roy WA5TNK, Scott Harding N5HUM, Elmer White KF5NFG, Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF, Herman Campbell KN5GRK, Calvin Begnaud KD5JCT, James M<sup>c</sup>Andrew KF5LGL, Karen Marshall KE5RPI, Fred Marshall W5MLE, Mark Saltzman KF5ENE, Tom Dischler KF5OHJ and XYL Dee, George Donaldson AK2Q, Ric Wallace KF5KEL and XYL Jackie.

We would like to thank Roger Erickson for making the trip from Lake Charles to teach the class, also thanks to Ed Roy for setting up the class, the Red Cross for the use of the building and the AARA for refreshments.



Roger Erickson





# 52<sup>nd</sup> ACADIANA HAMFEST

## ARRL LOUISIANA STATE CONVENTION

Sponsored by: Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

**March 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Friday & Saturday Only!**

Rayne Civic Center, Rayne, Louisiana



Rayne Civic Center, 300 Frog Festival Drive, Rayne, LA 70578 - just south of I-10 at Exit 87, go SOUTH on LA 35. Go to first traffic light and turn RIGHT on OAK STREET, then go to the second street and take a RIGHT onto GOSSEN MEMORIAL. Follow the street to the end, and you will be at the Rayne Civic Center.

### FRIDAY CRAWFISH BOIL @ 6:00 PM

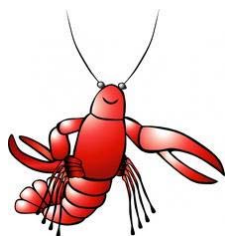
\$24 per person (advanced pre-registration)

### Fais Do Do (Cajun Music/Dancing) @ 7:00 PM

Advanced reservations must be in by February 20, 2012

See website for Friday & Saturday Schedules.

**Talk-in:** 146.820 pl turned off



### 6 Main Raffle Prizes

**Grand Prize:** Icom IC-7200 HF+6M

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** MFJ 269 Antenna Analyzer

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** West Mountain Rigblaster Plus

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize:** Astron RS-35M Power Supply

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize:** Harbor Freight 800 watt generator

**6<sup>th</sup> Prize:** Harbor Freight 800 watt generator

(Need not be present to win.)

**Plus door prizes awarded each half hour Saturday throughout the day.** (Must be present to win.)

### VENDORS:

PALMETTO ANTENNAS—REGAL-BROWN—M<sup>C</sup>M COMPUTERS—SIGN MAN OF BATON ROUGE—AUSTIN AMATEUR RADIO SUPPLY—GIFTS4HAMS/HAM PLAQUES—JMR SALES & MAYBE MORE!

You might want to go on line and visit the above vendors website and see if they have items you may wish to purchase and have them bring them to the hamfest. May save a few dollars in shipping. I have a listing to download our 2012 Hamfest Flyer and the Vendors websites at: <http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>

Check out the AARA 52<sup>nd</sup> 2012 Hamfest website at: <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/> for pre-registration forms and hamfest schedules for Friday and Saturday. Pre-registration for the "Crawfish Boil" ends on February 20, 2012.

Mark Spencer WA8SME, ARRL Education and Technology Program Coordinator, will be talking to some of the local educators and students Friday at 5:00 pm and doing some demos on robotics. Saturday immediately following the VE Test Session at 8:45 am, he will again speak to new hams on the subject: ***"I have my license..... Now What!."***

The Fox Hunt at 11:00 am Saturday will be hosted by Nick Pugh K5QXJ. Nick says he has some new ideas for fox hunting he would like to tell us about. BTW, the winner will receive 100 door prize tickets for finding the fox.



Scenes from last year's AARA Hamfest



## February 2012 AARA MEETING MINUTES (edited)

**CLUB MEETING:**

- The AARA President Herman KN5GRK opened the meeting.
- Herman led the prayer and also prayed for Paul's wife Kathy.
- Herman also prayed for Jess Gillion's KF5LUL wife.
- All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- There were 24 members in attendance and 5 visitors.
- Members introduced themselves and gave interesting contacts during December.

**Minutes:** The January minutes were not read as they were posted in the February LARC – accepted as written.

**Financial Report:** The Financial Report was read by Joy Breaux, N5YCS. On motion by Fred Marshall W5MLE, seconded by Danny Griffith K5ARH, the Financial Report was accepted as presented. The Financial Report is not published in the LARC; any member wanting a copy can contact Joy N5YCS.

**Old Business:**

Amos will not be brought to the Hamfest.

Update on the 147.040 repeater by Karl Fontenot. On 2/1/12, Karl reported: "Herman, grounding is complete. The fence is complete. Friday I take delivery of the cable tray. Cable tray supports are being fabricated now. I will try to install the cable tray this weekend. Webcomm of Louisiana is scheduled for Monday to install 3" line into building. You can expect to re-install all Ham club stuff next week". Karl

Charlie KI5XP has an updated computer to donate to W5EXI EchoLink and will run Win XP and should provide less downtime.

SkyWarn Training will be on February 9. It will either be at the Red Cross site or at Jess Gillian's place at 1216 NE Evangeline Thruway.

SkyWarn emergency frequency is 145.370. When an emergency is declared responders should go to that frequency, check-in and give observations for your area. SkyWarn is hoping that the group will evolve into a post incident exam group which will help determine extent of damage.

There are 18 students in the CMA Tech class. Nick Pugh K5QXJ mentioned that there are usually 8 training sessions and then the test.

**Hamfest Update:**

- Talk-in at 146.82 with the pl turned off
- RV booking – Ed Roy WA5TNK
- Ladies Bingo – Weston Hebert KB5WI
- Registration desk – Rick Breaux N5RKM and Joy Breaux N5YCS & others
- Table assignments – Rick Breaux N5RLM
- Band – Norman K5SAC and Roland K5EUO
- Band and podium amplifier – Chuck KE5ZZM
- AMSAT – Nick Pugh K5QXJ
- VE Testing – Danny Griffith K5ARH and Greg Dolan K5LFT
- Crawfish boil & refreshments stand – Rayne Lion's Club
- Security – Calvin Begnaud KD5JCT will check

**New Business:** Herman read the committee's recommendations for officers for 2012 & 2013:

- ♦ President – Herman Campbell KN5GRK
- ♦ Vice President – Paul Scallan K5VSH
- ♦ Secretary – Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF
- ♦ Treasurer – Joy Breaux N5YCS
- ♦ Member at Large – Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP
- ♦ Member at Large – Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD

There were no nominations from the floor and elections were held (according to proper protocol). New officers will be installed at the March meeting (Saturday after the Hamfest).

The AARA Technician Contest is still in effect.

Greg Dolan K5LFT reported that the 147.150 OAARA Club repeater is back up. PL 103.5.

The next AARA General Meeting will be Saturday, March 17, 2012.

Herman KN5GRK thanked all those who have contributed to the meeting, and during the last month, especially Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP for all the work he has done as Hamfest Assistant Chairperson.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned for refreshments.

**EVENTS:**

10-10 Winter Phone QSO Party – February 4 – <http://www.ten-ten.org>

Louisiana QSO Party – February 11 & 12 Thibodeaux ARC – [w5yl.org](http://w5yl.org)

Mardi Gras – February 21 (no volunteers to participate), however if you do go to the parades bring your HT and tune it to 146.82 to report anything unusual.

Respectfully submitted:  
Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF  
AARA Secretary





## FEBRUARY 2011 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	51	2	126	KF5ENE Mark
Acadiana ARES Net	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N5LRZ Ray
HEAL Net      *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	5 M / 7 G	Ø	20	KE5KJD Larry

"Indoors or out, no one relaxes in March, that month of wind and taxes, the wind will presently disappear, the taxes last us all the year." -Ogden Nash

**From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT February 22, 2012  
To all radio amateurs**

Louisiana will have a new Section Manager starting on April 1, 2012. Jim Coleman, AI5B, of Bogalusa, will be taking the reins from Gary Stratton, K5GLS, of Shreveport. Stratton, who decided not to run for another term, has served as Louisiana Section Manager since April 2008. Coleman is presently the Section Emergency Coordinator, and has served in that role since 2008.



### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/3	ED	KC5MMG
3/13	JESS	KF5LUL
3/15	LOUIS	KF5EID
3/19	TERRY	N5QWA
3/31	JOHN	NØJA
4/1	ROGER	W5QEP
4/1	MARK	KF5ENE

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.



## What Have You Done in Regards to Ham Radio Lately?

### March 2012 Special Events & Contests

- March 9-10**      **American Red Cross Month** W8NVY 14.260, 7.245, Echolink node #349350. *Other stations are participating as well.*
- March 10**      **USS Midway Seabee's Birthday; Girl Scouts founded 1912** NI6IW 14.320, 7.250, PSK31 14.070
- March 14**      **Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club** KD8DKU PSK31 14.070, 7.285  
International Pi day/ Einstein's Birthday
- March 28-April 1**      **Maury Amateur Radio Club** W4GGM 14.260, 14.070, 7.260, 7.060  
Mule Day (all things related to mules!)
- March 30-April 1**      **Northeast Mississippi Amateur Radio Club** NA5MS 3.860, Lower  
General Phone, 10m Tech band. 150th Anniversary of the Civil War  
battle of Shiloh, TN

Refer to the March issue of QST (page 95) for additional information and more listings of contests and special events Stations.

### February 2012 VE Test Results

Vinko Vidak, KF5NZC of Lafayette upgraded to General Class. Thomas K. Dischler of Eunice passed Technician Class and assigned callsign KF5OHJ.

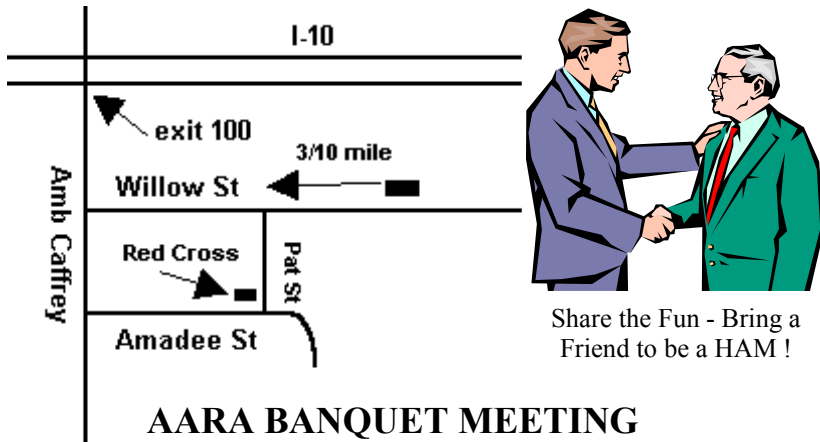
VE's present for this test session were:

Greg Dolan - K5LFT  
Danny Griffith - K5ARH  
Rick Breau - N5RLM



**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a  
Friend to be a HAM !

**AARA BANQUET MEETING**  
**Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012 - 6:00 PM**  
**NO VE Testing**

COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE

**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**  
**Lunch Bunch - Each Wednesday 10:45 AM - 2:00 PM**  
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA  
Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.

### ***Oven Bar-B-Qued Shrimp***

From: Not by Bread Alone Cookbook

2 sticks Butter	1/2 cup Jack Miller BBQ sauce
1 Large onion chopped	(no substitutes)
4 cloves Garlic chopped	Black pepper to taste
1 tsp Basil	Cayenne pepper to taste
1/2 tsp Thyme	2 pounds Shrimp
1 tsp Liquid crab boil	
2 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce	

To make sauce: melt butter, add onion and garlic. Sauté, then add remaining sauce ingredients. Cook for 2-3 minutes. Pour over shrimp in baking pan. Stir well to coat. Bake at 400 degrees F. about 20 minutes. Stir 2 or 3 times while baking.

Serve with French bread



Send your favorite recipes to:  
Galen KF5BET  
[galenw@cox.net](mailto:galenw@cox.net)

### **FCC Information Service**

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

***[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov)***

FCC Website:

***<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>***

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

***<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>***

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission,  
1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245